

Message Text

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TAGS: PFOR EG US

SUBJ: PRESIDENT'S VISIT TO EGYPT

1. IN SPECTACULAR COVERAGE, PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT DOMINATES ENTIRE FRONT PAGES OF CAIRO PRESS. BANNER HEADLINES USED TO DESCRIBE VISIT, AL AKHBAR HEADLINES TWO MILLION PEOPLE WELCOMED NIXON. THRUST OF REPORTAGE DEALS WITH POPULAR RECEPTION GIVEN PRESIDENT NIXON. SUMMARIES OF SPEECHES OF BOTH PRESIDENTS ARE FRONT-PAGED, WHILE INSIDE PAGES CONTAIN FULL TEXT. NEWSPAPERS CONTAINED NUMEROUS PHOTOGRAPHS, MOST NOTABLE ONE SHOWING TWO PRESIDENTS STANDING SIDE-BY-SIDE IN OPEN CAR PASSING THROUGH STREETS OF CAIRO BEING HAILED BY CHEERING CROWDS.

2. ARTICLES AND NUMEROUS EDITORIALS UNDERLINE SADAT'S STATEMENTS ABOUT IMPORTANCE OF PALESTINIAN SETTLEMENT. AL AHAM EDITORIALIZES THAT RECEPTION GIVEN NIXON IS "NOT ONLY AN EXPRESSION OF HOPES WHICH HIS VISIT GENERATES IN RELATION TO AMERICAN PARTICIPATION IN EGYPT'S ECONOMIC PROGRESS, BUT STRESSES IMPORTANCE WHICH VISIT HAS FOR FUTURE OF PEOPLE IN ME AREA AND THE RECOVERY OF ARAB RIGHTS IN FULL." ANOTHER AL AHAM EDIT STATES "FIRST
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MOMENTS OF NIXON'S ARRIVAL HAVE REMOVED EVERY

REASON TO BELIEVE THAT PAST RELATIONS WOULD PREVENT THE US AND EGYPT FROM BEING ABLE TO DEAL WITH SENSITIVE ISSUES WITH AN OPEN HEART AND TOTAL FRANKNESS IN THE SEARCH FOR JUST SOLUTIONS." IT CONTINUES "UNDOUBTEDLY NIXON INVITATION TO VISIT IS ONE STEP TAKEN BY EGYPT TO BRING ABOUT A JUST PEACE BASED ON THE EVACUATION OF ALL ARAB TERRITORIES AND A RESTORATION OF THE PALESTINIAN PEOPLE'S RIGHTS IN FULL. SURELY PRESIDENT NIXON IS CAPABLE OF MAKING A POSITIVE CONTRIBUTION TO THE REALIZATION OF THIS PEACE."

3. AL AHKBAR EDITORIALIZES "PEACE IS THE ACCENT OF PRESIDENT NIXON'S VISIT TO EGYPT AND THE ME COUNTRIES. AS HE, HIMSELF, HAS STATED, THIS IS A "PEACE TRIP" AND THE CIRCUMSTANCES ARE NOW FAVORABLE TO REALIZE A JUST PEACE THROUGH AMERICA'S EFFORTS WHICH WILL RESTORE OCCUPIED TERRITORIES TO THEIR OWNERS AND PALESTINIAN RIGHTS TO THE PALESTIANIAN PEOPLE.

4. IN ANALYTICAL ARTICLE IN AL GOMHOURIA HUDA TAWFIQ DISCUSSES SIGNIFICANCE OF HISTORICAL MEETING. TAWFIQ STRESSES IMPORTANCE VISIT HAS, COMING AS IT DOES AFTER OCTOBER WAR AND BEFORE UPCOMING NIXON-BRESHNEV SUMMIT MEETING IN MOSCOW. THIS VISIT, TAWFIQ DECLARES "IS MADE IN THE LIGHT OF TREMENDOUS PROGRESS IN AMERICAN POLICY...IT REFLECTS AMERICA'S COMMITMENT TO SOLVE ME CRISIS AND ITS KEENNESS TO BECOME DIRECT PARTICIPANT IN FINAL OUTCOME."

5. COMMENT: WELCOME GIVEN PRESIDENT WAS TUMULTUOUS AND IS ECHOED THROUGHOUT MEDIA. EMBASSY STAFF DID QUICK COMPARISON WITH KOSYGIN VISIT OF MAY 1966. OLD NEWSPAPERS REVEALED KOSYGIN'S REPORTAGE COVERED 1/3 TO 1/2 OF FRONT PAGES, CONSIDERABLY LESS THAN NIXON COVERAGE. THERE WERE FEWER PHOTOGRAPHS AND MANY LESS EDITORIALS.

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